



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

FOLEY HOAG, LLP
PATENT GROUP, WORLD
TRADE CENTER WEST
155 SEAPORT BLVD
BOSTON, MA 02110

COPY MAILED

SEP 24 2007

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of
Gary Lawrence FRENCH, et al
Application No. 09/914,176
Filed: June 6, 2005
Attorney Docket No. IMA-031.01

DECISION ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition under the unintentional provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed April 23, 2007, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The application became abandoned for failure to reply in a timely manner to the Restriction Requirement, mailed December 21, 2005, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of one (1) month or thirty days (30) (whichever is later). No extensions of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.36(a) were obtained. Accordingly, the application became abandoned on January 22, 2006.

The petition satisfies the requirements of 37 CFR 1.137(b) in that petitioner has supplied (1) the reply in the form of an election, (2) the petition fee of \$750; and (3) the required statement of unintentional delay have been received. Accordingly, the reply to the restriction requirement of December 21, 2005 is accepted as having been unintentionally delayed..

It is not apparent whether the person signing the statement of unintentional delay was in a position to have firsthand or direct knowledge of the facts and circumstances of the delay at issue. Nevertheless, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay. See 37 CFR 10.18(b) and Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure; Final Rule Notice, 62 Fed. Reg. 53131, 53178 (October 10, 1997), 1203 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 63, 103 (October 21, 1997). In the event that such an inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such an inquiry. If such inquiry results in the discovery that it is not correct that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional, petitioner must notify the Office.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Diane Goodwyn at (571)272-6735.

This application is being referred to Technology Center AU 1637 for appropriate action by the Examiner in the normal course of business on the concurrently filed election.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "April Wise".

April Wise
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions